



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP
The Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AA

14th January 2021

Dear Prime Minister,

I am writing to request that the UK sponsor a Resolution at the 46th UN Human Rights Council to create an International Independent Investigative Mechanism relating to Sri Lanka, to investigate and prosecute for serious international crimes committed in Sri Lanka against the Tamils.

It has been nearly 12 years since the end of the war, but the Sri Lankan government has consistently resisted international efforts to investigate alleged war crimes occurring during the war. In February 2020, Sri Lanka withdrew from its commitments to the UN Human Rights Council, deepening concerns that no-one will be held to account for these crimes.

As you may know, many Tamil groups have been calling on the UK to take immediate action. A coalition of groups from the British Tamil community have written to the Foreign Secretary earlier this month, urging him to sponsor a resolution to create an International Independent Investigative Mechanism. The All-Party Parliamentary Group for Tamils also wrote to the Foreign Secretary on this matter in November — although we have yet to receive a reply.

An International Independent Investigative Mechanism would be a step in the right direction towards meaningful reconciliation in Sri Lanka. It would gather evidence from the Tamils affected by the genocide whilst also making use of the information and evidence contained in the OISL Report of September 2015.

Time and again, the UK has played a vital role in leading collective action to insist on an international mechanism of accountability in Sri Lanka. I urge you to follow this tradition and do the same now.

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Ed Davey MP
Member of Parliament for Kingston and Surbiton



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Thank you, and I hope to hear from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Ed Davey".

Ed Davey MP
Leader of the Liberal Democrats

CC Rt Hon Dominic Raab MP, Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and
Development Affairs

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